

Applicant: Jabar, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/056,803  
Filed: January 24, 2002  
For: METHOD OF INCREASING CROP YIELD

Examiner: Grinber, Anne Marie  
Group: 1661

Office Action Mailed - 08/07/2003  
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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the yield of a crop~~yield~~ comprising administering an effective amount of a composition comprising a peptide and a polysaccharide on a seed of said crop or to a soil in which said crop is cultivated, wherein ~~the~~ said peptide is zein, and wherein said peptide is present in an amount of 2-90% by weight of the dry weight of the total peptide-polysaccharide complex and the polysaccharide is present in an amount of 10-98% by weight of the dry weight of the peptide-polysaccharide complex.
2. (Currently Amended) A method for accelerating the emergence of a crop ~~emergence~~ comprising administering an effective amount of a composition comprising a peptide and a polysaccharide on a seed of said crop or to a soil in which said crop is cultivated, wherein ~~the~~ said peptide is zein, and wherein said peptide is present in an amount of 2-90% by weight of the dry weight of the total peptide-polysaccharide complex and the polysaccharide is present in an amount of 10-98% by weight of the dry weight of the peptide-polysaccharide complex.
3. (Currently Amended) A method accelerating the maturity of a crop ~~maturity~~ comprising administering an effective amount of a composition comprising a peptide and a polysaccharide on a seed of said crop or to a soil in which said crop is cultivated, wherein ~~the~~ said peptide is zein, and wherein said peptide is present in an amount of 2-90% by weight of the dry weight of the total peptide-polysaccharide complex and the polysaccharide is present in an amount of 10-98% by weight of the dry weight of the peptide-polysaccharide complex.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1, 2 ~~and or~~ 3, wherein the peptide is present in an amount of 2-30% by weight of the dry weight of the peptide-polysaccharide complex and the polysaccharide is present in an amount of 70%-98% by weight of the dry weight of the peptide-polysaccharide complex.

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5. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1, 2 ~~and~~ or 3, wherein administering is performed before seeding of said crop.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1, 2 ~~and~~ or 3, wherein administering is performed simultaneously with seeding of said crop.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein administering is performed after seeding of said crop.
8. (Currently Amended) A seed composition comprising a crop seed and coating, said coating comprising a peptide-polysaccharide complex comprising a peptide and a polysaccharide, wherein ~~the said~~ the said peptide is zein, and wherein said peptide is present in an amount of 2-90% by weight of the dry weight of the total peptide-polysaccharide complex and the polysaccharide is present in an amount of 10-98% by weight of the dry weight of the peptide-polysaccharide complex.
9. (Original) The composition of claim 8, wherein the peptide is present in an amount of 2-30% by weight of the dry weight of the peptide-polysaccharide complex and the polysaccharide is present in an amount of 70%-98% by weight of the dry weight of the peptide-polysaccharide complex.
10. (Original) The composition of claim 8, wherein the crop seed is a potato.
11. (Original) The composition of claim 8, wherein the crop seed is a grain.
12. (Original) The composition of claim 11, wherein the grain is barley.
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1, 2 ~~and~~ or 3, wherein the peptide is isolated from a natural, synthetic or recombinant source.
14. (Canceled) The method of claims 1, 2 and 3, wherein the peptide is zein.

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15. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1, 2 ~~and~~ or 3, wherein the polysaccharide is isolated from a natural, synthetic or recombinant source.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the polysaccharide is a cellulosic derivative.
17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the cellulosic derivative is selected from a group consisting of carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, and microcrystalline cellulose.
18. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1, 2 ~~and~~ or 3, wherein the polysaccharide is starch or a starch derivative.
19. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1, 2 ~~and~~ or 3, wherein the polysaccharide is pectin.
20. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1, 2 ~~and~~ or 3, wherein the polysaccharide is derived from an exudate gum polysaccharide.